Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Cancel claims 1-10.

11. (Original) A method for recording servo pattern information on a disc, the method comprising:

(a) positioning the disc on a hub of a spindle motor;

(b) activating the spindle motor to rotate the disc;

(c) positioning a servo recording head relative to a desired radial position on the disc with an actuator having an actuator bearing;

(d) signaling the servo recording head to record the servo pattern information on the disc; and

(e) maintaining separation of opposing bearing surfaces with a working fluid in a gas-lubricated bearing within at least one of the spindle motor and the actuator bearing during (d), wherein the working fluid comprises helium.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein (e) comprises maintaining separation of opposing bearing surfaces with helium within the spindle motor during (d).

13. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein (e) comprises maintaining separation of opposing bearing surfaces with helium within the actuator bearing during (d).

14. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein (e) comprises maintaining separation of opposing bearing surfaces with helium within both the spindle motor and the actuator bearing during (d).

15. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the gas-lubricated bearing comprises a hydrostatic bearing and (e) comprises pumping the helium into a gap between the opposing bearing surfaces at a predetermined pressure during (d).

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 and further comprising:

(f) recovering the helium from the gap through an exhaust port in the gas-lubricated bearing.

17. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the gas-lubricated bearing comprises a hydrodynamic bearing and (e) comprises supplying the helium to a gap between the opposing bearing surfaces prior to (d) and maintaining separation of the opposing bearing surfaces through a self-pumping action within the gas-lubricated bearing.

18. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the working fluid comprises at least 70% helium by volume.

19. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein steps (a) through (e) are performed on a dedicated servo track writer assembly prior to installation of the disc within a disc drive.

20. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein steps (b) through (e) are performed following installation of the disc within a disc drive.

Cancel claim 21.